

352.0742B

E96
C.2
1860

1860 Drs.

5

Paid J. T. Gilman 1858,	15 00
" William M. Hunnewell,	50 00
" Ellison & Dearborn,	16 58
" Gardner Towle,	73 96
" Overseers of the Poor for teaming,	39 50
" John Conner,	17 75
" A. J. Towle,	1 50
" J. Perkins,	71 75
" S. P. Dolloff,	3 36
" William Flood,	2 00
" T. K. Mace,	3 00
" J. R. Dolloff 1858,	15 00
" E. S. Durgin,	4 50
" J. W. Odlin freight bills,	24 42
" J. Getchell & Son,	11 75
" Henry Manjoy,	4 50
" John Clement,	3 50
" W. Conner 1857,	9 19
" N. Weeks & Son for oil,	62
" F. Stockman,	10 50
" George Smith,	9 15
" Head, Jewell & Co.,	2 00
" F. Ham,	6 25

2,371 09

Fire Department.

Paid Hunneman & Co.,	207 20
" H. Guild,	12 63
" John H. Brown,	28 38
" Porter & Thyng,	1 73
" Daniel Melcher for broken windows,	50
" John P. Leavitt,	2 00
" Enoch Conner,	10 70
" W. B. Greenleaf,	10 00
" George W. Fernald,	23 62
" W. P. Tilton,	10 50
" Samuel S. Thyng,	15 00
" Charles P. Walker,	2 00
" E. A. Leavitt,	2 00
" J. E. Prescott,	1 50
" Andrew J. Currier,	1 50
" Engine Co. No. 1,	210 00
" " " No. 2,	180 00
" " " No. 3,	155 00
" " " No. 4,	75 00
" Hook & Ladder Co.,	75 00
" Engineers Carlisle, Hayes and Merrill,	15 00
" A. J. Towle,	6 00
" C. H. Goodwin,	4 50
" Anna M. Smith,	.6 00
" Kelly & Gardner,	1 77

1,057 53

NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATE LIBRARY

Police and Constables.

Paid George O. Dearborn,	-3 00
" Andrew Jackson Fogg,	25 50
" John Conner,	23 50
" H. P. Rollins,	30 73
" Stephen C. Gray,	30 00
" Charles K. Fifield,	21 50
" Wm. B. Chapman for 1858,	19 50
" Joel A. Leighton for 1858,	4 17
" Daniel McNeal,	1 25
" Benjamin Swain 1858,	6 63
" P. Keyes,	48 15
" George G. Lougee notifying town officers,	19 00
" W. P. Moulton,	4 18
" A. Wood 1858,	34 00
" J Hamilton Shapleigh,	7 25
" E. S. Durgin,	50 00
" W. O. Smith,	2 00
" W. B. Chapman,	3 00
" C. H. Bell,	25 00
" John S. Brown,	23 75
" John W. Clark,	20 85
<hr/>	
	402 96

Town House.

Paid Jeremiah Robinson for 1858,	25 46
" Elden & Stedman,	5 50
" Daniel F. Hayes for 1858,	1 25
" W. B. Chapman for 1858,	6 99
" Gardner Sleeper,	9 20
" Brown & Warren,	10 90
" W. P. Leavitt,	120 73
" Andrew Chase,	1 50
" E. O. Lovering,	76 83
" W. P. Leavitt,	63 75
" T. Conner,	113 81
" J. Getchell & Son,	20 43
<hr/>	
	456 35

Old Town House.

Paid Jacob Brown,	5 00
" Mark Burley,	9 00
" Sanborn & Watson,	8 00
" B. G. Furington,	2 00
" E. O. Lovering,	63 53
" C. E. Warren,	5 26
" Walter Pike,	75
" Benjamin Lang,	9 75
" Enoch J. Conner,	2 50
<hr/>	
	105 79

Miscellaneous.

Paid Insurance on New Town House,	75 00
" " " Old "	16 00
" Wm. B. Morrill as Moderator,	10 00
" George S. Shute,	2 00
" E. Norman,	.50
" Sarah A. Hall, an old claim settled,	94 52
" Post office bills,	1 16
" D. M. Quimby,	10 00
" Luke C. Langley,	30
" J. W. Moulton,	.50
" Fire works for 4th July,	50 00
" John Gilman,	1 50
" George W. Fernald,	12 00
" Samuel Hall,	49 25
" Auditors for 1858,	6 00
" Ellison & Dearborn,	5 40
" Benning Marston,	3 50
" Charles Grant, Town Clerk,	54 41
" J. B. Merrill,	.83
" D. W. Gorham,	1 30
" Wm. G. Perry,	3 85
" S. P. Dolloff abatement on T. Moses' highway tax,	16 15
" A. P. Dolloff,	2 80
" Woodbridge Odlin,	6 00
" S. C. Gray,	1 00
" E. Currier,	2 10
" N. G. Giddings self and horse taking taxes,	3 00
" Folsom & Merrill,	122 89
" Andrews & Robinson,	35 75
" Dr. E. Bartlett,	.85
" Wm. Conner,	9 28
" " for services with Assessors,	.75
" George W. Fernald,	14 50
" Henry P. Wiggin,	.75
" E. Dearborn for ringing bell,	50 00
" J. W. Odlin,	35 57
" Selectmen for services,	225 00
" Jewett Conner, abatement,	4 65
" W. B. Greenleaf,	3 10
" L. B. Roby,	3 10
" Insane Asylum,	25 50
" Kelly & Gardner,	7 12
" A. Conner in part of balance due Selectmen 1858,	18 51
" J. W. Odlin, " " " "	6 38

Amount of Money refunded as over tax on Railroad shares in the West, taxed in 1857 & 1858.

Paid I. S. Shute,	6 90
" Wm. Odlin,	16 28
" Charles Gill,	111 59
" J. G. Smith 1857,	.51 39
" J. T. Gilman,	295 67
" G. L. Soule,	15 61
" S. W. Dearborn,	147 93
" W. W. Stickney,	45 52
" Robert Shute,	17 56
" J. G. Smith 1858,	75 35
" J. G. Hoyt,	37 26
" Benjamin Odlin,	46 19
	867 25

Small Pox.

Paid Daniel G. Lougee and wife,	42 00
" Ellen Brawden,	75
" G. C. Lyford,	50
" J. Getchell & Son,	13 20
" W. Twilight,	25 00
" N. Weeks & Son,	3 32
" W. A. Shaw for Pest house,	75 00
" C. A. Merrill,	2 54
" A. R. Wiggin,	3 00
" A. P. Blake,	1 50
" E. F. Blake,	1 50
" F. Ham,	1 75
" Mary Sullivan,	50 00
" Jacob Carlisle,	25 63
" John Clement,	2 00
" Kelly & Gardner,	95
	248 64

Recapitulation.

Paid State tax	835 80
" County tax	2,092 17
" Town bonds and interest	2,080 00
" Granite State Bank interest	77 80
" Savings Bank interest	32 25
" interest on Gardner notes	120 00
" Overseers of the poor	800 00
" school district No. 1	325 00
" discount on taxes paid prior to Sept. 1	235 89
" support of schools	4,477 85
" Town Library and Librarian	211 52
" Highways and Bridges	2,371 09
" Fire Department	1,057 53
" Police and Constables	402 96
" Town Hall	456 35
" old Town House	105 75
" outstanding taxes prior to 1859	1,111 70
" non-resident highway tax wrought out	23 85
" outstanding tax 1859	266 48
" abatement of taxes	423 25
" small pox	1248 64
" overtax on Railroad stock	867 25
" miscellaneous	992 77
Total amount of expenditures	19,615 94
Total amount of receipts	19,624 94

Due town

9 00

JAMES W. ODLIN,
JOHN CLEMENT,
NATHANIEL G. GIDDINGS, } Selectmen
of
Exeter.

WE, the undersigned, have this day examined the accounts of the town, exhibited to us by the Selectmen, and find them well vouched and correctly cast, and find nine dollars in the hands of the Selectmen.

JEREMIAH ROBINSON, }
S. W. LEAVITT, } Auditors,
J. C. HILLIARD, }

EXETER, March 3, 1860.

In closing the report for the year 1859, the Selectmen think it pertinent to make a short review of the transactions of the past year, and in doing so we would commence with our first steps in the financial department. It will be borne in mind that on the first of April the Fire Department were to be paid off for the year 1858. In order to do this, and meet some other bills outstanding, we borrowed \$1,000 of the Granite State Bank, one half of which was subsequently paid. There has been also quite an addition of hose to the fire apparatus this year, which, together with badges for the Engineers, amounted to \$219 83.

The Police and Constables' bills have from necessity been larger this year than common, owing to the great increase of disorderly conduct, theft, &c. Every exertion has been made to suppress vice in all its forms, and if we have fallen short in this matter it is owing to a lack of cooperation on the part of our order-loving citizens. It will be noticed all through our report that many bills go back to last year, and some even farther. The expenses under the Miscellaneous head is less than last year. There are certain bills included in this summary that will eventually be paid by the county, viz: Bills to the Insane Asylum and expenses attending the same.

The Small Pox is not of every year's occurrence. It will be observed that we have paid bills amounting to \$248 64, of which \$166 64 has, in part, and the balance will, come back to the town. In addition to the above the bills of Dr. Perry, John Lougee, W. G. Lougee, and a bill of W. Wadleigh Esq. for twenty-five dollars for the rent of house occupied by Mr. Leavitt's family, have not been paid. Our excuse for the non-payment of these last named bills is that we promised the Selectmen of North Hampton to wait until after the annual meeting.

There are also two bills under the Miscellaneous head amounting to \$158 64 for liquors used at the town agency, which our agent failed to liquidate. They were bought on the credit of the town, consequently when it was ascertained that they were unpaid, the Selectmen felt it a duty to settle the same. There may be some loss to the town, owing to the mysterious disappearance of the agent, for which we are not at all reprehensible. The bill of expense on the old Town House is one of necessity. The building was leaking badly, and to delay shingling it would not be in keeping with our ideas of justice to the town, as their agents for the care and protection of their property. The new Hall will never be a paying institution so long as the parties who occupy it insist upon doing so at net cost. It has nevertheless paid something. There is a large quantity of coal in the cellar for another winter.

We have also paid back to persons owning stocks in western Railroads, which was taxed by advice of council in the years 1857 and 1858, the sum of \$867 25. In addition to the above N. Gordon Esq. holds a claim against the

town for the sum of \$42 85, drawing interest from Oct. 29, 1859, which was inadvertently omitted in our account, as we expected Mr. Gordon to present his claim and take the money, which he failed to do, until the account was closed.

Last, and by no means least, is the account under the head of Highways and Bridges. This account foots up large, but we think there is little cause for alarm in a town of the wealth and resources of Exeter. It is a conceded fact that our bridges have reflected but little credit to the town for many years, and that they were in a very bad state last spring. The upper or Great Bridge, came near going by the board when the river broke up. The pier was much damaged, the wall on the west side so bad that it would have been unsafe even to have repaired the old bridge and trusted to it, the stringers, many of them so bad that new ones must be furnished to take their places, and the railings in a state of decay. Under the circumstances we thought it most advisable to alter it in the way we have done, and have the satisfaction of knowing that most, if not all who opposed it so much at the time of its construction are now highly pleased with the structure, and feel as though the town has one bridge at least, that will compare with any in our vicinity, and one that will not be likely to want much, if any repairs, for years to come. One of the lower bridges has been rebuilt in like manner to the Great Bridge, and the other repaired at no small expense. They were both found to be in a bad condition, the stringers and planks being quite rotten. On the westerly side only seventeen planks being fit to replace, and on the opposite side only about twenty.

The inquiry is often made with regard to the indebtedness of the town. For the benefit of inquiring minds we would just say that the amount now owed by the town previous to this report is \$18,920, all of which is respectfully communicated.

JAMES W. ODLIN,
JOHN CLEMENT,
NATH'L G. GIDDINGS.

LIQUOR AGENCY REPORT.

Balance in Cash from last year,	53 08
Amount of Sales,	586 68
	<hr/>
	639 76
Cash paid for Liquors, freight &c.,	437 88
Agent's Salary,	114 58
	<hr/>
	552 46
Value of Liquors, Bbls., Faucets &c., on hand March 1, 1860,	254 03

A. H. WEEKS, Agent.

REPORT
OF THE
OVERSEERS OF THE POOR,
For the year 1859-60.

Receipts and Expenditures of the Overseers of the Poor,
for Town and County, from March 1st, 1859, to March
1st, 1860.

Cr.

By Cash of Town of Stratham,	2 00
" County,	1,048 77
" Tamworth,	2 00
" W. Philbrick for board of Mary Martin;	38 00
" John Nudd,	8 00
" Exeter Selectmen,	839 50
" Seabrook,	29 66
" Superintendent,	82 44
" Hampton Falls,	25 00
" John Wheeler,	45 62
" Jewett Conner,	50 55
" Balance of last year's account,	11 60
	2,183 14

Dr.

Paid Kelly & Gardner,	131 07
" Thomas Conner,	79 14
" F. Grant,	1 12
" J. E. Ordway,	28 07
" C. A. Merrill,	34 58
" R. C. Thompson,	16 67
" J. Getchell & Son,	32 25
" J. G. Haines,	18 14
" I. S. Shute,	72 87
" N. Weeks & Son,	45 36
" Porter & Thyng,	130 44
" Postage,	59
" J. T. Chesley,	21 88
" Insurance,	4 68
" George Stacy,	49 85
" Theodore Moses,	14 00

Paid Wm. Kimball,	20 00
" Richard Alley,	27 71
" Nathaniel Churchill,	74 93
" Doct. Perry,	110 25
" J. R. Richardson,	18 00
" Superintendent,	194 63
" J. Gilman,	50
" Harvey Philbrick,	23 50
" L. White,	2 00
" Foreigners,	16 36
" George Gordon,	4 00
" A. J. Hoyt,	1 40
" Edmund Elliot,	121 00
" G. C. Lyford,	30 46
" G. B. Hoyt,	10 00
" Theophilus Goodwin,	122 49
" Jeremiah Robinson,	6 25
" Wm. Flood,	96 00
" E. A. Porter,	5 00
" B. P. Batchelder,	7 50
" N. Weeks Jr.,	25 10
" Charles Conner,	16 46
" Thomas Conner,	34 24
" J. Carlisle,	4 91
" A. R. Wiggin,	19 50
" A. Merrill & Sons,	5 81
" S. E. Brown,	36 40
" Union Store,	18 89
" O. Lane,	8 28
" B. G. Purington,	3 75
" A. J. Towle,	12 05
" F. Grant,	22
" School District No.	10 00
" W. Philbrick,	6 25
" Jewett Conner,	7 83
" Overseers' services,	60 00
" J. McDuffie,	3 75
" Samuel Hall,	4 50
" Charles Haley,	8 86
" L. G. Prescott,	200 89
" J. R. Palmer's Estate,	71 45
" Shapley and Christic,	14 00
" Thomas W. Langley,	3 00
" Mrs. Dyer,	10 00
" Charles K. Fifield,	25 81
" Auditors,	3 00
	2,187 43
L. Cr.	2,183 15
	4 29

We the undersigned have this day examined the accounts exhibited to us by the Overseers of the Poor, and find them well vouched and correctly cast; and find due the Overseers of the Poor, four dollars and twenty-nine cents.

Exeter, March 5, 1860.

JEREMIAH ROBINSON,
S. W. LEAVITT,
J. C. HILLIARD, } Auditors.

The present number of Paupers at the Alms House is 22, of which 12 are boarders, paying from \$1.25 to 25 cents per week, and ten at the expense of the town.

The Town Expenses for the past year are as follows:

Paid Superintendent,	104 63
" Overseers' services,	60 00
" Physician,	20 00
" Schooling,	10 00
" Samuel Mason in Lee,	23 88
" Mrs. Mason in town,	10 00
" J. Weeks in Newmarket,	27.71
" Betsey Steele in town,	40 25
" W. Flood for Robinson family,	96 00
" Charles Page for T. Tilton board,	12 00
" Mrs. Swasey, house rent,	14 00
" Samuel Flood, house rent, supplies,	13 33
" Blacksmith work,	20 07
" 3 Heifers and Shoat,	39 45
" Kelly & Gardner, Paints, Nails &c.,	12 09
" Ox Cart,	32 00
" O. Lane bill for 1857,	8 28
" Doct. Perry old debt,	68 25
" J. Getchell & Son, Tools, Seed &c.,	8 73
" B. P. Batchelder repairs on Barn,	7 50
" Jeremiah Robinson, Plaster,	6 25
" Mrs. Dyer for Mrs. Flemming's board,	10 00
" Harvey Philbrick for Heifer,	23 50
	<hr/>
	743 92

Whole number through the year,

98

Number of Deaths,

3

Debts due from the Town.

To Jonathan Fogg,	252 56
" J. E. Ordway about	26 00
" Charles M. Norris,	10 85
" A. D. Neal,	10 00
	<hr/>
	209 35

Debts due the Town.

James Pike,	3 54
County,	120 00
	123 54

Eighty-one and a half Cords of Wood have been hauled to the poor families in Town the past year.

SAMUEL PALMER,
W. PHILBRICK,
THOS. W. LANGLEY, } Overseers
of the
Poor.

Inventory at the Town Farm, March 1, 1860.

Stock.

1 yoke Oxen	150 00
4 Cows	100 00
2 Heifers 3 year old	60 00
4 " 2 " "	60 00
4 " 1 " "	35 00
1 Horse	100 00
5 Shoats	60 00
	565 00

Hay and Grain.

10 tons English hay at \$15	150 00
5 " Fresh " " \$7 50	37 50
25 bushels Corn at \$1 00	25 00
	212 50

Provisions.

125 pounds Bacon Hams at 12 1-2 cents	87 75
80 " Shoulders at 10 cents	8 00
75 " Chops at 9 cents	6 75
2 3-4 barrels Pork at \$24	66 00
3 1-4 " Beef at \$15	38 75
160 bushels Potatoes at 35 cents	56 00
39 " white Beans at \$1 50	58 50
105 pounds Lard	14 70
48 " Butter at 25 cents	12 00
30 " Cheese at 10 cents	3 00
1 barrel Flour	7 75
2 pounds Tea at 50 cents	1 00
8 " Coffee at 12 1-2 cents	1 00
20 " Tallow at 9 cents	1 80
30 " Candles at 14 cents	4 20
8 " Sugar at 8 cents	64
30 " Salt Fish at 3 cents	90
1 gallon Molasses	32
	369 06

Household Furniture.

21 Beds and Bedding	125 00
25 Chairs	5 00
6 Tables	3 00
6 Stoves	40 00
9 Chests and drawers	2 50
4 Wash tubs	2 00
15 pewter Platters and Dishes	4 00
Knives and forks	1 00
Stone, earthen and tin ware	4 00
12 meal Bags	2 00
15 Cider barrels	7 00
6 Water pails	1 00
1 Time Piece	1 00
Crockery ware	3 00
20 Bedsteads	8 00
	208 50

Farming Utensils.

4 Ox Sleds	16 00
1 Horse Sled	8 00
1 Sleigh	6 00
1 Cultivator	3 50
1 Scalding Tub	1 00
1 Wagon	20 00
1 Lumber Wagon	45 00
2 Harnesses	25 00
2 Ox Carts and wheels	45 00
4 Ox Yokes	12 00
3 Shovels	1 50
1 Hay cutter	5 00
9 Chains	12 00
6 Rakes	1 00
2 Grindstones	5 00
3 Scythes and Snaiths	2 50
2 Forks	2 00
6 Axes	5 00
3 Hoes	2 00
4 Pitchforks	2 00
2 Spinning Wheels	4 00
	223 50

REPORT
OF THE
TOWN LIBRARY COMMITTEE,
FOR THE
Fiscal year ending March 13, 1859.

The Committee for the management of the Town Library beg leave to make the following Report:

This Library was founded in the year 1853. Its founders were gentlemen who, ever mindful of the demands of the times, always heeded a call in the direction of usefulness. It was their hope, by furnishing good reading, easy of access and free to all, that the young, especially, would be kept from idleness by ever having books at hand ; while older persons would find upon the shelves of the Library much to interest and instruct them, of which they would be glad to avail themselves.

The first Catalogue of Books was issued in 1854, the second in 1856, followed the same year by a Supplement, and by another Supplement in 1857.

At the time of the issuing of the first Catalogue, there were in the Library seven hundred volumes. The second Catalogue contains a list of books more than twice as large, and the second Supplement a list of more than three hundred volumes.

Upon entering upon their duties your Committee were happy to find this popular institution of the town in so flourishing a condition ; and now, at the end of the year, they are glad to be able to report that the interest is unabated, and that more books have been read this than the previous year.

There has also been a marked change in the character of the books called for. Instead of the light, trashy literature, which formerly was most desired, History, books of Travel, Memoirs, and, to some considerable extent, Scientific works have been demanded. This your Committee consider as a marked evidence of the usefulness of the Library.

The number of books now belonging to the Library is 2141.

The number added by purchase the past year is 100; by gift, 4; the number lost the past year 5; worn out and useless, 10.

There was appropriated by the Town last year for the current expenses of the Library \$200 00

There has been received for fines 7 50

\$207 50

Which has been expended as follows :

Librarian's salary, 75 00

In the purchase of new books, 90 37

" repairing of old books, 19 68

For lighting the Library, 7 45

" Wood, 7 50

Incidental expenses, sawing wood &c., 7 50

\$207 50

There is now due the Library \$14 35 for fines, the most of which is not collectable.

There are no outstanding debts against the Library, that your Committee know of.

A bill for printing and binding several hundred copies of the Catalogue of 1856, has been presented to your Committee, by Mr. Samuel Hall.

The appropriation for the Library last year was for the current expenses of the year; and in the opinion of your Committee, they were not authorized to use that appropriation for the payment of old bills.

And the Catalogues mentioned in the bill having never been delivered to the Library Committee, your Committee did not feel called upon to investigate the matter, nor do they know by whose authority the printing was done; and they are wholly unable to advise what ought to be done in relation thereto.

They do not find any authority, or vote of the town, which would enable the Librarian or the Committee to exceed the appropriation for the current year or to contract a debt against the Town.

Too many Catalogues have been printed, and by far the greater part of the money expended for them has been little better than thrown away.

This abuse has happened mainly from want of a well defined law regulating the powers of the Librarian, and of the Library Committee. As they now exist, each is independent of the other, and each hold their powers directly from the people.

For many years the Library was managed by the Committee, and the Librarian was appointed by them; and at no time since its foundation has the number of its books increased so fast as in the three or four first years. The Library then received large and valuable presents in books, and donations in money were received from the Trustees of Phillips Exeter Academy, which since the Librarian has been chosen by the people, have been almost en-

tirely withheld,—and that not from a want of confidence in the gentleman elected, and who has so faithfully discharged his duties, but from other causes not in any way connected with the Librarian.

Your Committee would earnestly recommend a return to the old practice, and that the Librarian be appointed by the Library Committee, and be liable to be removed by them.

And your Committee would further recommend that the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars be raised and appropriated for the use of the Library for the ensuing current year.

JOHN W. CLARK, *for the Committee.*

REPORT
OF THE
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF THE
TOWN OF EXETER
FOR THE

Year ending March 12, 1860.

The Statute of the State, which requires the Superintending School Committee to make an annual report, is as follows :

"The Superintending School Committee shall make out annually a report, and present the same to the town at its annual meeting, stating the number of weeks which the public schools have been kept in each district, in summer and in winter, and what portion thereof has been kept by male, and what portion by female teachers ; the whole number of scholars that have attended each school ; the progress made in each school in the various branches of learning ; the number of children between the ages of four and fourteen years in each district that have attended school therein ; and the number of persons in each district between the ages of fourteen and twenty one years who cannot read and write, with such suggestions as may be useful upon the management of schools and the subject of education." (Com. Statutes Chap. 77 Sec. 16.)

The free school system is the offspring of Christianity. No State, or Empire, not imbued with its lofty principles, has ever undertaken to give free schools to the people. The need of the Christian religion must be felt, as essential to the happiness of man, or the welfare of the State, before the house of worship rises. Intimately blended with this sentiment is the cause of education, and positively requisite to the security of free institutions and the stability of a Republic. No lawgiver in this age, would think of establishing a free and independent State, on a less durable foundation, than the consent of an intelligent and educated people. An ignorant and unlettered people are not able to appreciate the blessings of freedom. They must have a Cæsar, an Attila, or a Genghis Khan. They are not subject to reason, but to force. They are incapable of enjoying the rights and privileges which free government bestows, without perverting them in unrestrained license,

and they are unsusceptible to the restrictions of salutary laws on account of the narrowness of mind which ignorance begets. To elevate a people from barbarism to culture is a Herculean task. It requires, in a succession of generations, patient endurance, undaunted courage, constant vigilance, patriotism, self-sacrifice, heroes and statesmen. And to preserve its place demands either despotism in the government, or an educated intelligence and a pure morality in the governed.

It is about 6000 years since Adam ; and, all this time, man has been striving to attain unto the highest condition of earthly life. And although there are about 1,300,000,000 of human beings on the earth, yet only about one third of them have risen to the dignity of partial civilization, and a very few to the capacity of self-government. It has cost Great Britain a labor of twelve or fifteen centuries, a thousand times severer than the fabulous labors of Hercules, and untold treasures, to reach the preeminence she now holds. History accords her the first place among the nations of the Old World, in stability of government, in freedom of conscience, in culture of letters, in security of person and property, in the useful arts, in military achievement, in wealth, in everything that gives a nation power, solidity, duration. And yet, such is the illiterate and uncultivated condition of the masses there, that they have little more voice in the government than the horse in the dray, and the bayonet is ever ready to enforce obedience to the laws.

While it is an arduous and long labor to raise a people from ignorance and barbarism to culture and power, relaxing the efforts to keep them up, they will easily glide down again to the foot of the descent, whence they started. It should be the aim of our country, and is, of the Free States, to extend education to all. The President may now be elected, war declared, manufacturers overthrown, commerce paralyzed, agriculture depressed, finances deranged, and the entire business of the country thrown into a state of perturbation and disorder by a small percentage of illiterate voters diffused through the States of the Republic, who cannot read the names on their tickets, and do not know whether they are voting for President or King. We want educated farmers and educated mechanics as well as educated men in the professions. Educated labor in every department of industry is worth more than uneducated labor. From careful inquiries instituted in the manufacturing establishments of Massachusetts, it is found that the value of the work and the wages paid vary in proportion to the educated intelligence of the operatives. And if the experiment is ever tried on a scale of sufficient magnitude to test it, it will be found that the American soldier, on the land, or on the sea, will do the work his country expects of him, all the better, for being an educated soldier.

The origin of the United States is unlike that of any other great Nation. Unlike Greece, Rome, England, Russia, beginning at the rudest stage of rough savages, subsisting by war and the chase, dwelling in caves of the

earth, and dressing in skins of wild beasts, we commenced the experiment of national existence pretty well up the scale,—with the meeting house and the school house. The Puritan brought with him to the New World, the common law of England, so far as it was adapted to his condition, what was worth preserving in the British Constitution, the great Charter of English rights being the accumulated wisdom of ages, a mind sternly disciplined in the fires of persecution, and strongly imbued with the divine precepts of our holy religion. He came also a warrior, in full panoply, undaunted and resolute. Scarcely had Captain Miles Standish secured for his beloved Rose a safe retreat from the rigorous winter and the relentless savage, before the house of worship was erected with its spire pointing heavenward, and after it, the School house.

It is probable, that two centuries ago, the inhabitants of Exeter were quite as sensible of the importance of good schools for their children as they are now. The town records show that the support of schools was only second in interest to that of the pulpit. By whoever is curious enough to explore the early proceedings of the town, in town meeting, the citizens will then be found debating and voting and polling the house about the division of the school money, as they do now. For a long period there was but one school house in town, and one school district, comprising the whole town. Some years, the school money was distributed among the different sections of the town, in proportion to the amount raised for schooling; and, other years, the school was moved from one section to another, being kept in each section till their money was used up. In the early part of the last century, there is recorded on the books of the town this vote:—

"Voted that the school shall be kept five months at the School House, and fore months att pickpockit, and three months at Ass Brook and directed in moving by the Selectmen."

And again :

"Voted that Ass Brook shall have their part of ye money that shall be raised for the School the insuing year according to what they are taxed towards s'd school and that the middle part of ye town shall have their part, and that the west end of ye town shall have their proportion as in ye year past."

At this period the Selectmen had the entire charge of the schools. They hired the master and paid him, and moved him and his school pretty much in their discretion. The fathers of the town did not probably put the master through a very steep examination in those days, although by the following extracts from the town books, it will be seen that they took good care to nail the contract fast enough.

"Agreed with Mr. Elisha Odlin to keep school in Exeter three months for twelve pounds teen shillings & to beginning the 30th day of April as witness my hand this 29 day of April 1730. ELISHA ODLIN."

"Apr'l. 2, 1731. Then agreed with The Selectmen of this Town of Exeter to keep a Gramar School For said Town for Nine Months for The Sum of Fourty one Pounds Five Shillings to begin Ap'l. 5 as Witness My hand.

NICH'O. GILMAN Jun'r."

"April ye 1th 1734. Then Mr. Elisha odlin agreed with ye Select of Exeter to keep a Grama School for s'd town twelve months for fifty five pounds and to begin ye nex Day."

The two first extracts appear to be in the handwriting of the masters, and the last to have been written by one of "ye Select of Exeter" as he styles himself. It thus appears that the town, at the time of which we are writing, paid the school-master from \$10 to \$16 per month, appropriating from \$120 to \$185 per year as near as we can learn. The first school-master of whom we find mention, was Jonathan Pairpoyn, and there was Nicholas Perryman and Peter Coffin,—all prior to Elisha Odlin and Nicholas Gilman, Jr. There was also John Phillips.

From those days until now, with the more general diffusion of knowledge, a higher standard of scholarship, and the increase of wealth, the schools of the town have been steadily improving. In place of one school, we now have six Primary, seven Grammar, and one High School. From an annual expenditure of \$120 we have ascended to \$3888 which was raised this year. In addition to this sum, there is the Literary Fund \$207,75, and the money derived from the tax on Railroads, &c., \$132,29, making the aggregate amount expended in support of schools for the year ending March 12th 1860, \$4235,-04.

The school should be the nursery of good morals, good manners, and studious habits. This mortal life is the preparatory state for the immortal life. The school-life of the boy should be the preparatory state for the life of the man. Agesilaus, king of Sparta, being asked once what boys should learn, replied, that they should learn "what they ought to do when they become men." It should not be forgotten that the end of schooling is to make a pure man, a useful man and a good citizen.

In book learning, *thoroughness* should be the first requisition of the pupil. Better is a little well learned, than a heap not half understood. David did much better in his engagement with the Philistine, with his simple sling and stones which he had proved, than he could have done with king Saul's armour which he had not proved. There is a general disposition in all the Grammar schools to get over the ground,—to get ahead,—and in District No. 1 to get into the High School, as though it were Paradise. This disposition to hurry on without being thoroughly grounded in the elementary principles of the various branches taught, your Committee have sought to discourage. Many manage to do very well in the Grammar schools, pass a fair examination, and as soon as they take their seats in the High school, sink down into indolence, inattention, and comparative stupidity, an embarrassment to the school, and without benefit to themselves.

The pupil should be taught to *understand everything he learns*; otherwise it is parrot-learning, requiring no exercise of the mind but memory, and strengthening no other faculty. Explanations from a teacher, of the meaning, uses and derivation of words to a class in reading, and practical applications of principles in arithmetic and grammar are more beneficial to the class than the lesson. Such a course often arouses the youthful mind, suggests new ideas, causes the pupil to think, and so accomplishes a great work. An effort should be made to teach every child to think, as well for the strengthening of the mind, and the expansion of its powers, as to the end that he may learn he has a mind, may find out what it can do, and learn to depend on it. It is hardly worth while to force upon the young mind what it is incapable of understanding. It creates a disrelish for that particular branch of study, which it will require years to remove.

Self-reliance at recitation is required of the pupil. No matter whether the lesson be spelling, a question in arithmetic, or parsing a word in grammar. The pupil may need aid, and always does in getting his lesson, but when he undertakes to recite it, we want him to depend upon himself, without keeping an open ear to the lips of the boy or girl next to him, or an eye on the master for aid. The habit has been too general, and has not yet gone into entire disuse, of calling on the *class* to answer, and if there is one brighter than the rest, such an one becomes a class leader, and all the rest follow as easily as the hind wheel of a wagon follows the fore wheel, and with just about as much exercise of intellect. By this mode of recitation, those whose perceptive powers are not so quick in comprehension, those whose memory is less ready, and others whose thoughts are less under their control or slower in motion, are all deprived of the privilege of exercising their faculties, besides forming the worst of all mental habits, that of depending on another to do the thinking. This habit of recitation we have sought to eradicate.

Attention is essential to progress in a school; attention to the teacher and attention to books. No school can flourish with a part of the children looking out of the window, a part catching flies, and a part "helping Zeke."

No master can keep school without *obedience*; not a reluctant, obliging conditional obedience, but a prompt, cheerful, implicit obedience. The child at school exhibits the tone of his discipline at home. One child may have his own way at home, another may be under wholesome restraint. One may have a strong will—hard to bend; another a pliant one. When they come to school, they are all subject to the same rules, as they will be to the same laws when they become men. If they submit patiently to the rules of the school, they will learn what it is to be subject to law, and thus may find the way easy to reverence the divine law and obey the human. Your Committee consider good government in school of primary importance, not only as involving the present improvement of the child, but also the welfare of the man, and the well-being of society. Obedience is exacted from all the pupils.

The teacher has the same authority to enforce obedience to the necessary and proper rules of the school, that a parent has to enforce obedience. He stands in the place of a parent. The extent of the teacher's authority over the scholar is while he is at school, at intermission, and going to and from school.

Punctuality is insisted on. For tardiness or absence, a satisfactory excuse is required. *Whispering* is forbidden except by license from the teacher.

General good order, quietude, and cleanliness in the school house is enjoined.

Respect for the teacher has much to do with the progress of the pupil in books and in manners. This depends mainly on the teacher and the parents. The teacher should respect himself, be courteous in his manners, though firm, kind, yet exacting, patient and of good temper. The parents should always speak respectfully of the teacher, never take sides with the child against the teacher, and they should occasionally visit the school. Parents should not commit their children to a school room six hours of the day, without knowing what sort of a place it is. Parents do not manifest that interest in the schools which they ought. There are many who do not enter the school room from the beginning to the end of the year. Here are their little ones—the objects of their daily care, their constant solicitude, their worldly efforts, the chief in their affections. Here their plastic minds are being moulded. Here they are daily receiving impressions more durable than the productions of genius, impressions that may form their character, and shape the ends of this life and the next, past the power of subsequent influences to modify or vary. And yet they pass by the door of the school room, day after day, and never look in to see what shape the child is taking. They do not know whether it is a healthful or an unhealthful place; cleanly or uncleanly; hot or cold; whether the teacher is kind or cruel, rough or tender, fit or unfit; whether the school room is the nursery of good morals and good manners, or Pandora's box plethoric with vice and moral turpitude. Let every parent visit the school at least once a term, and as much oftener as practicable. Do not trust to the S. S. Committee.

Your Committee are of the opinion that in *manners*, there has been no improvement since the days of Master Pairpoyn, but rather a decline. In the hot haste to get on with arithmetic and grammar, the cultivation of the manners has been entirely ignored. This is a great mistake. Cultivated manners are often a passport, where a head full of wisdom, with a clownish exterior, would not be admitted. In our visits we have inculcated civility, kindness, gentleness, good temper, in the intercourse of the children with one another. We have positively forbidden any indecent expression, untruthfulness, profanity or quarrelling, in, or about the school house, and directed the teachers, if anything of the kind comes to their knowledge, to impose such punishment as would best meet the case.

For obvious reasons it does not accord with the spirit of our institutions to

the thoughts of every teacher of youth. The Divine law is the foundation of all human law. It is a maxim of common law that any legislative enactment up the children in our public schools in the tenets of any particular religious sect. But a high moral culture based upon the divine precepts promulgated to the world by the Savior of mankind, should be uppermost in mind contrary to Divine law is null and void. The existence of God, the immortality of the soul, the inspiration of the sacred scriptures, and their binding authority, the great principles of patriotism, humanity, truth, justice, honesty, temperance, should be sedulously impressed upon the minds of our youth by every public teacher.* And whoever would pervert these fundamental principles of domestic and social happiness, civil authority, and national existence, in the hearts of these little ones, better that a millstone be hanged about his neck, &c.

All of our schools are opened every morning with prayer or reading from the sacred Scriptures, and, in some, by both exercises. In Boston, the Lord's prayer is repeated every morning, in all the public schools in the city, and the ten commandments committed to memory and repeated by all the children once a week. Your Committee would recommend the adoption of a similar course here.

In the mode of employing teachers, your Committee think there has been no improvement since the days when "ye Select of Exeter" discharged that duty. Then the Selectmen examined, employed, paid, and removed, if necessary. The teacher was accountable to them for the judicious management of his school, and they to the town for his fitness. Now there is a shifting of responsibility between the S. S. Committee of the town and the P. S. Committee of the district, and it is sometimes hard to find where it attaches. It is the duty of the latter to select and employ, but the contract is not binding unless the former examine and approve. And while the latter cannot employ unless the former recommend, yet they are not bound to employ on account of the recommendation. And though the former have nothing to do with the selection or engagement of the teacher, they are required by law to remove him, in case of unfitness.

In examination of an applicant for a school, we may find him well qualified in books, and supported by testimonials of good moral character. Still there are points requisite to a teacher not susceptible to an oral examination, which we cannot discover. He may be deficient in faculty of government, aptness to teach, temper or something else. Now the P. S. Committee must not shield themselves behind the certificate of the S. S. Committee, and

*"It shall be the duty of all persons entrusted with or engaged in the instruction of the young, diligently to impress upon their minds the principles of piety and justice; a sacred regard to truth, love of country, humanity and benevolence; sobriety, industry and frugality; chastity, moderation and temperance; and all other virtues which are the ornament and support of human society." (Com. Statutes Chap. 77, Sec. 20.)

consider their work done, because the applicant is approved. It is their duty to enquire into his antecedents, his reputation where he has taught, his success as a teacher. This is the more imperative, because an unsuitable teacher interrupts the smooth current of the school, and a removal deranges it and stops all progress. Changes should never be made except from necessity. And a teacher *that is a teacher* we should never let go.

The country is deluged with new school books, and agents of publishing houses are peregrinating the land in order that the rising generation may have the benefit of their benevolent efforts. And were your Committee subject to the same humanizing influences, the text books in our schools would be changed about three times a year. The policy of your Committee has been to promote uniformity in all the schools, and where a change in text books was necessary, to introduce the book where a new class came into it, in order to spare the parents or guardians additional expense.

There are six Primary schools in town. They are conducted quite to our satisfaction. In two of them, however, there is not so much interest manifested as we should like to see. Whether this arises from stolidity of mind in the pupils or from a dislike of teaching, or want of energy in the teacher, your Committee are not able to determine.

It is very desirable in the Primary schools that the children should have some employment, something to occupy their attention when they are not engaged with their lessons. It is not expected or required that these little ones are to be much tasked or are to make much mental effort. Many are sent to the Primary school to be kept out of mischief or danger, and others to be got out of the way. And when the school is well managed, the room clean and well ventilated, the teacher kind, careful and attentive to their comfort, such children are no doubt happier and better off than they would be at home. But a large portion of the time, they are restless and uneasy, because they have nothing to do. They are interested and happy as long as they can fix their attention on their books. But this is for a brief period, and then the confinement is irksome. It would be a good thing if the teachers would institute some physical or gymnastic exercise to be practised in the school room for a few minutes, about midway between the opening of the school and recess, and about midway between recess and the closing of the school. In the Primary schools in Boston, Holbrook's slates are used, which serve both for the occupation of the children and for their instruction. It sometimes happens that disease, infectious or contagious in type, prevails in town. It is often communicated through the school from family to family, and is at times alarming and attended with extreme mortality. Your Committee are of the opinion that no child should be admitted into any of the public schools unless he has been vaccinated.

Of the Grammar schools we have not much to say in addition to what has

been already said on the general subject of education. We think they have all made fair progress in the various branches taught. Some have made more progress than others, and some have been more thoroughly taught than others. In one or two of them there has been a want of that order requisite to a well conducted school. We find no occasion to qualify the oft-repeated maxim, "*as is the teacher so is the scholar.*"

There have been some changes in District No. 6. An experienced and excellent female teacher discontinued her engagement there on account of the size of the school room. And your Committee feel constrained to say that the school houses in Districts No. 4 and 6, are not large enough to accommodate the children, with a due regard to their health and bodily comfort, and School house in No. 2 is hardly up with the times.

In the High school is expected a higher standard of scholarship, a better deportment, a more marked improvement, than in the Grammar schools. The design of this school is to afford to those who are qualified to enter, facilities for obtaining a better education than can be had in the grammar schools. Here are the means for obtaining a superior education. Those who are graduated here, if they improve their opportunities, will be found competent, so far as book knowledge is requisite, to enter upon almost any trust to which they may be called, and respectable in any vocation in life. But there are some here who do not appreciate their privileges, and make no improvement. They are disrespectful to their teachers, are not punctual in their attendance, and their example is pernicious to the school. Your Committee would suggest the exercise of a more rigid discipline towards such boys. And if they are incorrigible they should be suspended, dismissed or remanded to the Grammar schools. Then others are there whose minds are not sufficiently mature to reap the full benefit which this school was designed to afford. In the multiplicity of branches taught and classes, requiring the attention of the teachers, these younger minds, which are not yet capable of mastering the abstruse principles of some of their studies, lose that thorough grounding, without which study is a waste of time. It would have been better for such to have remained in the Grammar school a year or two longer.

At the end of each year it becomes the duty of your Committee to examine candidates for admission to the High School. In order to remove any suspicion of partiality on the part of the candidates, or their parents, or any body else, and to make the examination as fair as possible, a set of questions in Arithmetic, Geography and Grammar were prepared and printed. On the day of examination, the candidates were separated and so seated about the school house that they could not render each other any aid without the observation of the Committee. A copy of the questions was then given to each candidate, and they were required to answer them in writing. The same

time was allowed to each for doing his work—an hour and a half in Arithmetic, an hour in Grammar, a half hour in Geography.

In deciding upon the merits of the candidates, your Committee was governed by their proficiency in the studies required, as evinced in the performance of their work.

The graduating class at the High school this year consists of ten.

Of the candidates examined twelve are believed to be qualified for admission.

In the Grammar schools in District No. 1, and in the High school, it is quite apparent that there is too strong a pressure upon the minds of the pupils. In the preparatory schools, the ambition of the children is excited by the parents, and by the teachers, and by an emulation with each other to render themselves qualified to enter the High school. When they enter there, although there are some who need not to be cautioned about studying too much, yet, there are others, whose ambition does not flag, and who take on themselves the whole burden of study prescribed by the course. There is much danger in this rushing way. Children in order to have strong constitutions and vigorous minds, must have plenty of air and exercise.

Parents and teachers should take care of the bodies of the youth as well as their minds.

Until this year, your Committee was required by law, in addition to other duties to visit each school in town at the beginning and end of *the year*.

This required twenty-eight visits. By a law passed in 1858, it is now their duty to visit each school in town, at the beginning and end of *each term*. This demands about ninety visits, and the law also enlarges the duties they had before, and imposes new ones upon them.

We are required by statute to report to you "the number of children between the ages of four and fourteen years of age in each district, that have not attended school therein; and the number of persons in each district between the ages of fourteen and twenty-one years who cannot read and write." The teachers in the several districts are not able to furnish us with the means of doing this, and we cannot do it without canvassing the whole town.

Albert J. Ellison, of the Spring Street Grammar school, and Charles O. Odlin, of the High school, have neither been absent nor tardy during the year.

Having made such suggestions on the subject of education and the management of schools as were deemed applicable to our condition and circumstances, noticing some defects, and recommending some improvements, having furnished the statistics of the schools in the table which follows, your Committee would close by saying that the present condition of the public

schools is an ornament to the town, and with the correction of a few defects, would probably be unsurpassed by any town in the State.

NATH'L GORDON,
J. C. HILLIAD,
WM. G. PERRY.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

Primary Schools.		Grammar Schools.		High School.	
Dist. No. 1,	Miss H. A. Kellogg Miss C. S. Ellis Miss V. F. A. Piper Miss C. E. Smith Miss L. J. Chase " " 2, Mrs. H. J. Coggeshall	Mr. W. A. Currier Miss R. P. Woodman Mr. W. H. Gage " " 2, " " 3, " " 4, " " 5, " " 6,	Mr. W. H. Tuttle { Mr. Alvin Wiggin { Miss C. A. Haley { Miss F. Taylor { Miss S. C. Blake { Miss M. N. Gile { Miss K. Morrill { Mr. R. H. Parker	Mr. N. F. Carter, Principal, Miss E. S. Holbrook, Assistant,	
Length of Summer School	Length of Winter School	Length of weeks.	Length of weeks.		
in weeks.	in weeks.	in weeks.	in weeks.		
Number of weeks kept by male teachers.	Number of weeks kept by female teachers.	Number of weeks kept by males teachers.	Number of weeks kept by females teachers.		
Number of weeks kept by males teachers.	Number of weeks kept by females teachers.	Number of weeks kept by males teachers.	Number of weeks kept by females teachers.		
Total.	Average attendance.	Salary of teachers.	Hindennal expenses.	Cost of tuition per scholar.	Value of land and build- ings.
24	14	33	24	27	51
24	14	38	26	37	63
24	14	38	36	41	77
24	14	38	37	27	64
24	14	38	25	36	61
24	14	39	38	28	66
26	13	39	39	28	66
24	14	38	41	22	63
24	14	38	23	31	54
24	14	38	36	23	59
23	11 3-5	34 3-5	14	21	35
18	16	16	18	12	13
15	18		33	9	4
23	12 1-2	5	30 1-2	18	21
24	16	40	-	50	75
24	16	40	-	50	58
24	16	40	40	40	40
				750.00	39.90
				240.00	13.73
					2000